

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract on page 23 with the following amended Abstract:

The invention involves a parallel spread spectrum ("PSS") technique of spreading orthogonal encoded data. In a preferred embodiment, a method and system for communicating data comprises encoding and spreading a data stream using a scheme employing orthogonal Walsh functions, and thereby segmenting the data stream into multiple bit data packets representing one of a number of true or inverted Walsh codes. The data stream is then differentially encoded for either binary phase shift keying (BPSK) or quadrature phase shift keying (QPSK) modulation, and spread using a pseudo-noise (PN) [[-]]sequence. The parallel spread data stream is modulated for transmission to a receiver. At the receiver, the data stream is recovered by computing a cross correlation between the digitized data stream and a programmed sequence. One of the benefits of ~~the~~ this PSS technique[[s]] over conventional communication systems is that additional processing gain plus data forward error correction can be simultaneously achieved.